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MEDICAL.

FUNCTIONS OF THE BRAIN.

From Combe on Health and Mental Education.

Most physiologists are agreed that the
different parts of the brain perform distinct
functions and that these functions are the
highest and most important in the animal
economy; but there is great discrepancy of
opinion as to what the function of each
part is, and as to the best mode of remov-
ing the obscurity in which the subject is
involved. It would be useless to examine
here the merits of the respective theories
and modes of inquiry, as the attempt would
lead us too far from the practical aim of
the work. Suffice it to say, that all physi-
ologists and philosophers regard the brain
as the organ of mind; that most of them
consider it as an aggregate of parts, each
charged with a specific function; and that
a large majority, with Gall and Cuvier at
their head, regard the anterior lobe as more
immediately the seat of the intellectual fac-
ulties. Further, by nearly universal con-
sent the brain is held to be also the seat
of the passions and moral feelings of our na-
ture, as well as of consciousness and every
other mental act, and to be the chief source
of that nervous influence which is indispen-
sable to the vitality and action of every organ
of the body. There are so few exceptions to
the general belief of these propositions, that
I consider myself fairly entitled to hold them
as established.

Many animals possess individual senses
or instincts in greater perfection than man,
but there is not one which can be com-
pared with him in the number and range of its
faculties; and, as a necessary consequence
there is not one which approaches him in
the development and perfection of its ner-
vous system. No organ can execute more
than a simple function; and, accordingly,
even the Edinburg Review admits, that, in
precise proportion as we ascend in the scale
of creation, and the animal acquires a sense,
a power, or an instinct, do its nerves multi-
ply and "its brain improve in structure and
argument in volume, each addition being
marked by some addition or amplification of
the powers of the animal, until in man we
behold it possessing some parts of which ani-
mals are destitute, and wanting none which
they possess," so that "we are enabled to
associate every faculty which gives superi-
ority, with some addition to the nervous mass,
even from the smallest indications of sensa-
tion and will, up to the highest degree of sen-
sibility, judgment, and expression."

It is extremely important to bear in mind
this constant relation between mental power
and development of brain. It not only
explains why capacities and dispositions
are so different, but shows incontrovertibly
that the cultivation of the moral and intel-
lectual faculties can be successfully carried
on only by acting in obedience to the laws of
organization, and associating together those
faculties, the organs of which are simulta-
neously progressive in their growth. It is a
law, for instance, that alternate periods of
activity and repose conduce to the strength
and development of every organ, and to
the easy performance of its function, and
that excess in either is alike hurtful in its
consequences. If, therefore, in our anxiety
for the advancement of a child in a favourite
pursuit, we urge it to incessant and unvaried
exertion of the same kind for many hours
a day, we violate this law in neglecting the
necessary intervals of rest, and thus run
the risk of injuring the health of the brain, and
entirely defeating our object. And, on the
other hand, if we withdraw the child alto-
gether from the pursuit, for weeks or months
at a time, as happens during the vacation
of the school, we violate the law again, in
depriving the faculties of their necessary ex-
ercise, and thus run the risk of sacrificing
the improvement already gained, and of di-
minishing the mental power. In neither
case is the brain exercised in conformity
with the organic laws, and consequently we
look in vain for the same amount of improve-
ment which would have followed their ful-
filment; and yet, so far is the physiology of
the brain from being considered as the only
sound basis on which the science of educa-
tion can rest, that very few teachers or
moralists are aware that the organic laws
have any connexion with the operations of
mind, and still fewer have ever thought of
adapting their practice to the dictates of
these laws; although no truth in education
or philosophy can be more clearly proved, or
more beneficially applied, than that on which
I am now insisting.

In thus treating of the brain as the indis-
pensable instrument or organ of the mental
faculties, I must not be understood as rep-
resenting mind and brain to be one and the
same thing. I mean only that the brain is
necessarily engaged in every intellectual
and moral operation, exactly as the eye is in
every act of vision, and that, as the mind
cannot see without the intervention of the
eye, so neither can it think or feel, during

life, except through the instrumentality of
the brain. Consequently, it would be as
reasonable and logical to infer, from the
former proposition, that the eye is the mind
or the mind the eye, as to infer from the
latter that the brain is the mind, or the mind
the brain.

It requires, however, to be distinctly un-
derstood, that activity of mind and activity
of brain are inseparable, and that every
change in the one is attended by a corre-
sponding change in the condition of the
other. If, by the excessive use of stimulants,
the brain be highly excited, the mind will be
disturbed in an equal degree, as is ex-
emplified every day in the phenomena of
intoxication; and if, on the other hand, the
mind be suddenly roused by violent pas-
sions, the vessels of the brain will instantly
take on increased action, redness will suffuse
the face, and excitement of the brain will
show itself in characters as legible as if pro-
duced by a physical cause.

The mind and brain being thus insepar-
ably associated during life, it becomes an
object of primary importance to discover
the laws by which their healthy action is
regulated, that we may yield them willing
obedience, and escape the numerous evils
consequent on their violation.

The brain being a part of the animal
system, and subject to the same general
laws as every other organ, the reader will
not be surprised that I should, as in the case
of the lungs, state a sound original constitu-
tion as the first condition of its healthy ac-
tion. If the brain possess from birth a
freedom from all hereditary taints and im-
perfections, and have acquired no unusual
susceptibility from injudicious treatment in
infancy, it will withstand a great deal in
after-life before its health will give way.
But, if, on the other hand, either it inherit
deficiencies, or early mismanagement have
subsequently entailed upon it an unusual
proneness to morbid action, it will give way
under circumstances which would otherwise
have been perfectly innocuous; and, ac-
cordingly, it may be truly said, that the most
powerful of all the causes which predispose
to nervous and mental disease is the trans-
mission of a hereditary tendency from parents
to children, producing in the latter an un-
usual liability to the same maladies under
which the parents have laboured.

Even where the defect in the parent is
merely some peculiarity of disposition or
temper, amounting perhaps to eccentricity,
it is astonishing how clearly its influence on
some one or other of the progeny may be
traced, and how completely a constitutional
bias of this description may interfere with
a man's happiness or success in life. I
have seen instances in which it pervaded
every member of a family, and others in
which it affected only one or two. When
the original eccentricity is on the mother's
side, and she is gifted with much force of
character, the evil extends more widely
among the children than when it is on the
father's side. Where both parents are
descended from tainted families, the pro-
geny is of course more deeply affected than
where one of them is from a pure stock;
and, seemingly for this reason, hereditary
predisposition is a more usual cause of ner-
vous disease in the higher classes, who in-
termarry much with each other, than in the
lower, who have a wider choice.

Unhappily, it is not merely as a cause of
disease that hereditary predisposition is to
be dreaded. The obstacles which it throws
in the way of permanent recovery are even
more formidable, and can never be entirely
removed. Safety is to be found only in a-
voiding the perpetuation of the mischief;
and, therefore, if two persons, each natu-
rally of an excitable and delicate nervous tem-
perament choose to unite for life, they have
themselves to blame for the concentrated in-
fluence of similar tendencies in destroying
the health of their offspring, and subjecting
them to all the miseries of nervous disease,
madness, or melancholy.

Even where no hereditary defect exists,
continued excitement of the nervous func-
tions in the mother, from anxiety, grief, or
other causes, during pregnancy, has often
a striking effect on the future mental health
and constitution of the offspring. Many
authors testify to the truth of this fact,
which has not escaped the penetration of
some mothers. The Margravine of Anspach
observes justly, that "when a female is likely
to become a mother, she ought to be doubly
careful of her temper; and, in particular,
to indulge no ideas that are not cheerful,
and no sentiments that are not kind. Such
is the connexion between the mind and
body, that the features of the face are
moulded commonly into an expression of
the internal disposition; and is it not nat-
ural to think that an infant, before it is
born, may be affected by the temper of its
mother?" *Memoirs*, vol. ii. chap. viii.

From the Sunday School Journal.
DENOMINATIONAL AND GENERAL UNIONS.

Since the institution of the American
Sunday-school Union, several other socie-
ties have been formed for the promotion
and aid of Sabbath-schools. Some of these
have been established for the benefit of a
particular denomination throughout the
whole country; others for particular denomi-
nations within certain limits. The Meth-
odist Episcopal and Protestant Episcopal
Unions, for instance, are in this same gen-
eral—they are designed to assist the cause
in their respective denominations in all parts
of the land, and are connected with their o-
perations as churches. There are other
denominational Unions, which are not con-
nected officially with their ecclesiastical or-
ganizations, but are designed to promote
the benefit and increase of the schools of
their denominations within certain limits—
such as the Massachusetts Baptist Union,
or the Sabbath-school Society of the same

State, which is *Congregational*. There is
a third class of Unions, which are not re-
stricted to any denomination, but are limited
in extent, as the Illinois, the South Carolina,
&c. The list we gave in our last number
comprised only those Societies or Unions
which are denominational. Our Society
took the title of *Union* to express the as-
sociation of evangelical Christians, with-
out regard to name. The other Societies
have adopted it to signify the connexion of
the members of their own body in a com-
mon enterprise. The *genus* and the *species*
have the same term.

Whilst we are making this explanation
for the benefit of some who have not under-
stood the distinctions referred to, we would
add a few remarks, to remove some other
misapprehensions.

1. There is no interference or rivalry be-
tween the American and the other Unions.
It was never the design of this society to
monopolize this department of benevolence.
Its effort has been to encourage the forma-
tion of Schools and Societies, whether con-
nected with it or no. Whatever tends to
promote religious education, furthers the
main object of our institution—whether this
be done for any one branch of the Christian
church alone, or for all its branches collec-
tively, there is so much accomplished for the
great end in view.

2. The multiplication of denominational
Unions, instead of diminishing, increases
the necessity for a general Union. The
main object of each of these is to advance
and supply the schools of its own denomina-
tion. These schools require comparatively
but a few books of a distinctive charac-
ter—purely denominational—and the rest
come within the scope of a General Society.
Of course, the more schools, the greater
must be the demand. Besides, in propor-
tion as teachers and other assistance are re-
quired for such schools, the greater defi-
ciency will be created in behalf of the multi-
tudes who cannot be collected into them, on
account of the diversity of the opinions of
the parents, the want of accommodation,
&c. It follows, then, that the American is
not superseded by local or denominational
Unions, however numerous they may be,
and that there should be no collision be-
tween them. Each denomination or dis-
trict may support its own Union; but it is
no more reasonable to withhold aid on that
account from the American Union than it
is to refuse to support a Foreign or Domest-
ic Missionary Society, because every man
has his own pastor and church to maintain.

3. Therefore, the principles and opera-
tions of the General Union must continue
unchanged, whatever changes may occur
in the degree of favour in which it is regard-
ed by the several denominations. We some-
times see assertions based on the supposi-
tion of one or another denomination with-
drawing from our Union; and the inference
made, that as each withdraws, it loses its
influence, or being comprehended in our
Union principles. This springs from inatten-
tion to the fact, which we are weary of re-
peating, that no denomination can withdraw
from the Union, for the good reason that
none is connected with it. It must go on
in its work of encouraging Christian educa-
tion and circulating moral and religious
books, on the principles of Christian Union,
so long as it has friends of any church to up-
hold it.

4. It is, then, the reciprocal duty of the
general and special Sabbath-school Socie-
ties to regard each other as fellow-labour-
ers in the same field, and to avail them-
selves of each other's assistance. There is
probably no section of our country where a
denominational Union can meet the wants
of the whole population; and we suppose
there is no evangelical church that would
not find great help in adding our publica-
tions to those furnished by its special socie-
ty. On the other hand, it is the duty of the
missionaries of the General Union, and it is
made obligatory by their commissions, not
to interfere with any denominational schools,
by attempting to change the principles on
which they are established, or to disturb
their connexion with another Union.

5. Every motive of Christian benevo-
lence that leads any one to support local or
special institutions of religious instruction,
on the Lord's day, urges to the commensu-
rate support of the only Union in this coun-
try in which Christians of all evangelical
denominations may and do unite. There
are hundreds of thousands who can be reach-
ed by the gospel in no other way. To meet
this destitution the friends of the study of
the Bible should vigorously combine, and
send forth by the instrumentality of the Sab-
bath-school, the message of mercy through
the Divine Redeemer.

RURAL ECONOMY.

Extract from a Pamphlet giving an Account of
the Medical Properties of the Grey Sulphur
Springs, Virginia.

The great reputation which the Mineral
Springs of Virginia have of late years ac-
quired, cause them to be resorted to, in great
numbers, not only by invalids from every
section of the United States and foreign
parts, but also by individuals of leisure and
fashion, whose principal object is, to pass
the summer in an agreeable manner. The
properties of the Warm, Hot, Sweet, White
Sulphur, Salt Sulphur and Red Sulphur
Springs are generally known. Those of
the Grey Sulphur having been ascertained
only within the last two years, have yet to
be made public, and in order to do so, we
are induced to give in this form, an account
of the situation and medical properties, togeth-
er with a statement of some of the cases
benefited by the use of the waters.

The Grey Sulphur Springs are situated
near the line, dividing the counties of Giles
and Monroe, Virginia; on the main road
leading from the Court House of the one to
the other. They are three fourths of a

mile from Peterstown, 9 miles from the Red
Sulphur, and by the County road, 20 1-4
miles from the Salt Sulphur Springs. In
travelling to the Virginia Springs; by either,
the main Tennessee, or Goodspur Gap roads
and crossing the country from Newbern, by
the stage road to the Sulphur Springs, the
Grey Sulphur are the first arrived at. They
are 30 miles distant from Newbern. The
location is such as will admit of many and
varied improvements, which when com-
pleted, will render this spot an elegant and desir-
able resort during the summer months, in-
dependent of the high medicinal properties
of the Mineral Waters.

The present improvements consist of a
brick Hotel 90 feet long, and 32 wide; two
ranges of cabins 162 feet long each, which,
with other buildings in connexion, afford ac-
commodation for from 80 to 100 visitors.

There are two Springs at this establish-
ment, situated within five feet of each other
and inclosed in one building. Although ris-
ing so near to each other, yet they differ
most materially in their action on the sys-
tem. Both appear to be peculiarly service-
able in dyspeptic cases, and in such as
originate in a disordered state of the stom-
ach—the one in those, in which inflammation
exists, the other in such as proceed from tor-
pidity. They have hitherto been known as
the Large and Small Springs; but having
succeeded towards the close of the last
season in procuring a much larger supply
of water at the Small Spring, than is afford-
ed by the Large, a change of names be-
came necessary. The Large will hereafter
be known as the Anti-dyspeptic, and the
Small as the Aperient, which names will
serve to point out their peculiar characteris-
tics.

These Springs have been classed by Pro-
fessor Shepard, as "Alkaline Sulphurous,"
a variety so rarely met with, that another is
not known in the United States. The wa-
ters are beautifully clear, and highly charg-
ed with gas, which render them light and
extremely pleasant, especially that of the
Anti-dyspeptic spring, which produces none
of those unpleasant sensations so frequently
felt on the first drinking of Mineral Waters.

When first purchased, some of the water
was submitted to a chemist for analysis; the
quantity, however, was too small for him to
ascertain all its ingredients. A more recent
examination has been made by Professor
C. U. Shepard, who has furnished us with
the following abstract of an article which ap-
pears in the April number (1836) of Profes-
sor Silliman's Journal of Science and Arts.

"The following is the most satisfactory
views which my experiments enable me to
present of the condition of those Waters."

Specific gravity, 1003.

SOLUBLE INGREDIENTS.

Nitrogen,
Hydro Sulphuric acid,
Bicarbonate of Soda,*
A Super Carbonate of Lime,
Chloride of Calcium,
Chloride of Sodium,
Sulphate of Soda,
An Alkaline or earthy Crenate, or both,
Silicic acid.

INSOLUBLE INGREDIENTS.

Sulphuretted Iron,
Crenate of Per Oxide of Iron,
Silicic Acid,
Alumina,
Silicate of Iron.

My experiments do not permit me to point
out the differences between the two Springs
with precision. The new Spring appears
to give rise to a greater amount of hydro-
sulphuric acid, as well as of iron and silicic
acid. Probably it may differ in still other
respects. I have not examined it for Iodine
or Bromine."

As no regular analysis was attempted,
the quantities in which these several ingre-
dients exist, still remain undetermined.
That they are in different proportions in the
two Springs, is evident not only from their
deposits, but also from their action on the
system. The action of the Anti-dyspeptic
Spring is diuretic and gently aperient, tend-
ing to restore the healthy performance of
the functions, and reduce or diffuse the local
irritations of disease. The Aperient Spring
while it possesses all the alkaline properties
of the other, has an aperient and alterative
action. Possessing more iron, (of which the
other has but a trace,) it acts more power-
fully as a tonic, while its other ingredients
cause it to act in some cases as a very pow-
erful aperient.

As these Springs have been visited by
invalids, only during the two last seasons, it
is reasonable to suppose that all their prop-
erties have not yet been discovered, nor all
the cases ascertained in which they can be
beneficially used. In fact, owing to the
small quantity of water furnished hitherto by
the Aperient Spring, its qualities have been
but little tested, and there can be no doubt,
(judging from its constituents) that it will be
found equally salutarious as the Anti-Dys-
peptic Spring, and better adapted to another
class of cases. To give a general idea
of the properties of these waters, we might
say that they are peculiarly serviceable in
those diseases which originate in a disordered
state of the stomach and bowels, and also in
hepatic affections. It is proper, however,
to enter more into details, and we therefore
submit the following synopsis of the medical
properties of the Anti-dyspeptic Spring.

MEDICAL PROPERTIES.

1. It relieves nausea and headaches, arising
from disordered stomachs.
2. Neutralises acidity, and if taken at
meals, or immediately after, it has a ten-
dency to prevent those unpleasant sensa-
tions so often experienced by invalids, from
indiscretion in dieting.
3. Is an excellent tonic, exciting appetite
and imparting strength to digestion.

*It cannot be determined whether free carbon-
ic acid exists in these waters without going into
a quantitative analysis.—C. U. S.

4. Quiets irritation of the alimentary can-
nal.

5. Controls and lessens the force of the
circulation when unnaturally excited by dis-
ease, and often in this way, is remedial in
internal inflammation of the organs.

6. It tranquilizes nervous irritability.

7. Is a mild and certain expectorant, of-
ten allaying dyspnea, and promoting recov-
ery from chronic ailments of the chest or
wind pipe.

8. It alters the action of the liver where
this has been previously deranged, in a man-
ner peculiar to itself, and under circumstan-
ces in which the ordinary alternatives are
forbidden by reason of their excitant, or
otherwise irrelevant properties.

9. It is also sudorific or diaphoretic;
and

10. When taken at bed-time, often proves
itself soporific: apparently stilling that indis-
criminate, but too well understood inquietude,
which so frequently and unhappily inter-
rupts or prevents the repose of the invalid,
and especially of the dyspeptic.

Having thus briefly stated the properties
of this Spring, we submit the following state-
ment of cases, treated at the Grey Sulphur,
illustrative of the effect of the waters, and in
corroboration of what has been advanced.
Except those which are noticed in their prop-
er places, all are either directly from the pen
of the sufferers themselves, or were imme-
diately dictated by them in the form in which
they appear in the notes. The originals are
in our possession, signed by the individuals,
whose cases are referred to.

The Pamphlet contains letters, from some
of the most scientific gentlemen throughout
the Union, recommending these Springs to
the attention of invalids.

From the Genesee Farmer.

AGRICULTURAL MINERALOGY.

No publication, whatever may be its sub-
ject or its merits, can be perused with ad-
vantage, unless the language used by the
writer is understood, and the terms made
use of clearly defined. Even definitions
too frequently remind one of John Randolph
in the House of Representatives. The hero
of Roanoke, in one of his sarcastic and able
yet rambling speeches, found himself in the
midst of a sentence so completely involved,
that extrication was impossible, unless by
cutting the gordian knot of words that
inclosed him. "Mr. Speaker," said he,
"the subject we are discussing, in the light
I have presented it to you, is as clear as—
the light of that window,—and that is
not very clear," added he, pointing to the
dusty windows of the capitol. Johnson,
when he defined "higgledy piggledy" by
"conglomeration," furnished a pregnant in-
stance of the common fault of definitions.

The labors of Chapin and Davy, by show-
ing that many of what were formerly con-
sidered primitive earths, are merely com-
binations of a few of the principal ones, in
different proportions, and by adopting an
improved phraseology, have done much to
simplify and render intelligible the language
of agricultural chemistry, and its kindred
subjects. Still there are many terms used
necessarily more or less technical, or
belonging almost exclusively to the business
of agriculture, which we have reason to
believe are not by all precisely understood,
and as they must be considered as part of
the language of every farmer in all countries
and are of importance in elucidating the
practice as well as theory of agriculture, we
have supposed that a paper studiously plain
on some of these terms, might not be alto-
gether without its use. Another reason has
also had its influence in bringing us to this
conclusion—the Genesee Farmer receives
generally an accession of new subscribers
at the commencement of the yearly volume;
and besides, the Monthly Farmer we hope
will find its way into the hands of multitudes
to whom the weekly Farmer has been in-
accessible; and though the readers of the
latter may be in some measure familiar with
the topics here introduced, we trust they
will not be entirely useless to any.

In accomplishing our object, it will not be
necessary to refer to more than three of the
primitive earths—Silica or flint, Alumina
or clay, and Lime—since, though chemistry
has detected the presence of seven or eight
others, they exist in such minute quantities,
and are so sparingly distributed, as not to
produce the least sensible effect on the great
mass. Of these three earths, silica alone
composes one-half of the globe, and lime
three-fourths of the remainder. Silica is
the base of all the granitic and sandstone
rocks, and all soils formed by the disintegra-
tion or crumbling of these, are composed
of gravel or sand. Hence such soils are
termed silicious, or sandy. Alumina is
rarely found in a pure state, but in a mixed
state,—is the basis of clay and several kinds
of rocks. Soil in which alumina predomi-
nates is called argillaceous or clay soil.
Lime is one of the most common earths,
and from the important uses to which it is
applied in civilized countries, is well known.
It occurs most frequently combined with
carbonic acid, in which state it forms lime-
stone, marble, chalk, marine shells, and the
shells of snails. The immense piles reared
from the depths of the ocean by the coral
insect, are also formed of lime. Combined
with sulphuric acid, it forms that substance
so all important to the farmer, gypsum or
plaster of paris. The soil in which this
acid prevails, is called calcareous, or lime-
stone soil. Thus the principal soils from
their composition are termed Silicious or
sandy—Argillaceous or clayey—and Cal-
careous or limestone; and it is the com-
bination of these original earths in different
proportions with each other, and with
vegetable mold, that forms the varieties of
soil, different as they are in kind and fertility.

Some writers formerly have spoken of loam
as one of the original earths, but examina-
tion has showed it to be the primitive earths,

alumina generally in the greatest proportion,
thoroughly mixed with decayed vegetable
matter. To determine which kind of earth
preponderates in a soil, generally requires
but little attention or skill. The presence
of lime or calcareous matter in soils is de-
termined by drying some of it and pouring
upon it some acid—sulphuric acid, or strong
vinegar will do; and the violence of the
effervescence or foaming will be in propor-
tion to the lime in the soil. Clay and sand,
and their respective proportions, are in
general so easily distinguished by the farmer
as to need no remark. Marl however is
sometimes mistaken for clay, but the ap-
plication of an acid instantly shows the dif-
ference. Perhaps the best soil that can be
found is a true sandy loam, containing lime
enough to ensure the decomposition of all
vegetable matter, clay enough to prevent its
baking, or hardening in the sun. Such a
soil is adapted to the production of a great
variety of vegetables than any other and
produces them in greater perfection, since
it is generally of a first rate quality. It is
evident therefore at first sight, that in order
to cultivate a farm successfully, some know-
ledge of the constituent parts of its soil is
necessary. Experience has proved that the
use of lime has a great effect in fertilizing
some soils; but to sow lime on a thoroughly
calcareous soil would be like carrying coals
to Newcastle, and to lavish gypsum or
plaster upon wet heavy clay soils, would be
a waste of both time and money; yet how
often do we see farmers, from the want of
a little knowledge or attention, pursuing a
course of husbandry equally absurd. Where
the quantity of sand is so great as to
render the soil porous and friable, clay
should be incorporated with it, and where
the clay is in such quantity as to make it
tenacious and liable to bake hard and crack
in the sun, sand should be put upon it until
the evil is removed. Upon soils purely cal-
careous, sand and clay united should be put,
and upon all, vegetable mold or animal
manure should be liberally used, if the
highest degree of amelioration is our object.

Manure is another important ingredient in the
formation of soils. It is a substance con-
sisting of lime mixed with a greater or less
quantity of clay and sand, and frequently
containing marine and animal remains.
Where it can be applied in considerable
quantities to a sandy soil—and nature seems
to have wisely and kindly placed them in
juxta-position, (witness the sandy plains of
Long Island, Jersey, and the south.)—it
converts such from being comparatively
worthless, to the richest and most productive
kind. It is by the judicious use of manure
and manure, that Judge Buel of Albany has
brought his sandy pitch-pine knolls to such
an astonishing state of productiveness and
fertility.

We shall here give the definition of a few
other words and phrases, in addition to
those above, as by long use, or appropriate-
ness, they have become a necessary part of
an agricultural vocabulary.

Vegetable Matter.—All vegetable sub-
stances, in decomposed or rotten state.

Animal Matter.—All animal substances
in the same situation.

Organic Matter.—Both animal and vege-
table substances in a decayed state.

Long Manure.—Is barn-yard manure
before it is rotted, as fresh cornstalks or
straw. Circumstances may justify the use
of manure in this state, but experience has
proved that it is not the most profitable way.

Short Manure.—This is a manure thor-
oughly decomposed or rotted in the yard.
In this state it may be cut with a spade and
shoveled as common earth.

Fossil Manure.—This is principally com-
posed of lime, marl, shells and plaster, and
on suitable soils is very valuable, a heavy
dressing lasting for years.

Compost Manure.—This is made by
mixing various substances such as leaves
from the forest, mud from the brook, weeds
from the field or garden, the wash of roads,
and in general any vegetable, animal, or
mineral matter, that can assist decomposi-
tion into a common mass, and when possible,
turning them frequently until reduced to a
fine rich earth. This manure is most
valuable for the gardener as those operations
where nothing not perfectly rotted can be
allowed.

Soiling.—Is the feeding of cattle in a
barn or yard during the summer with fresh
grass or roots. As a grass for soiling the
lucerne is highly recommended, though the
common clover is generally used. Of roots,
the mangel wurtzel is often preferred, since
its large fleshy leaves are ready for picking
early in the season, and provided the young
and crown leaves are undisturbed, may be
repeatedly stripped for food, until the root
itself arrives at sufficient maturity for feed-
ing.

Rotation of Crops, is a change from one
kind of vegetable or plant to another in
succession on the same ground. Its use-
fulness depends on the fact, that different
plants do not take from the soil the same
substances in the same proportions. Thus
wheat does better after peas, barley or corn
than after rye or wheat; and plants whose
roots run near the surface ought to succeed
the tap-rooted kind. Much of the excellence
of the modern system of farming depends
on a skillful rotation of crops.

White Crops, are such as become dry
and white while ripening their seeds; the
different kinds of grain are of this class.

Green Crops.—The carrot, cabbage, pea,
turnep, &c., those plants which continue
green until ready to take off the ground,
are called green crops. Such are much
less exhausting than those that ripen their
seed on the soil, and are therefore excellent
in rotation with such.

Green Fallow.—